

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2 and 4-8 are presently pending in this application, all of which stand rejected.

Regarding Applicants' contention that the invention in claims 1 and 2 shows unexpected results, the Examiner contends that comparative example 1 can only be compared with example tire 1 since they only differ in cord count, but the parameters for example tire 1 are not commensurate in scope with the claimed invention. Specifically, the example tire is formed with a coating rubber having a 100% modulus of 1.8 and a resilience of 55, both of which are outside the claimed ranges. Thus, according to the Examiner, the results of Table 1 cannot provide a conclusive showing of unexpected results for the combination of a PEN cord in accordance with the claimed invention and a coating rubber having a modulus of between 2 and 4 MPa and a resilience of at least 60. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Comparative tire 1 substantially corresponds to the tire disclosed in Tamura. Example tire 1 corresponds to the tire defined in original claim 1, but does **not** correspond to the tire defined in amended claim 1. To the contrary, Example tire 3 is one embodiment that corresponds to the tire defined in claim 1.

As seen from the comparison between Example tire 1 and Example tire 3, the effects (road noise, rolling resistance, flat spot property and the like) are improved by restricting the properties of the coating rubber to those defined in claim 1. In other words, the present invention shows unexpectedly superior results over Tamura as seen from the comparison among Comparative tire 1, Example tire 1 and Example tire 3.

Consequently, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the prior art rejections.

Regarding Ueyoko, this reference is concerned with a tire for airplanes among the high-speed and heavy-duty tires (col. 1, line 5). To the contrary, the present invention is concerned with a tire for passenger cars. Therefore, the performance requirements differ substantially between Ueyoko and the present invention. In any event, Ueyoko fails to supply the deficiencies of Tamura, and the present invention is entirely different from Tamura and Ueyoko and could not have been easily conceived therefrom without the proscribed use of hindsight.

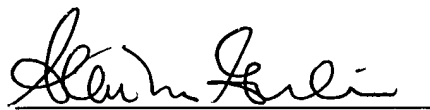
In view of the preceding remarks, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby earnestly solicited. If there are any points remaining in issue that the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephonic interview, he is kindly requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the local telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116
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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees (with the exception of the Issue/Publication Fees) to our Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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